

Proposed Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting  
October 13, 2014

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President Van Sickler called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the high school media center.

Members present: Davis, Drumm, Freeman, McNerney, Palmer, Van Sickler

Members absent: Ryckman

Administrators present: Hubbard, Weaver

Administrators absent: Walderzak

Visitors present: Bonnie Walker, Ali Goodhall, Larry Koutz, Matthew Koutz, Tammi Daymon, Karl Haney, Jollee McQueen, Connie Marshall, Sharon Davis, Bethany Wieber, Teresa Hammond, Tammy Dickman, Karen Gostomski, Sean Phillips, Christa Phillips, Lori Wolfe

Approval of Agenda

Van Sickler amended the agenda by moving the Audit Report to immediately after the Treasurer's report.

Motion by Palmer, support by McNerney to approve the agenda as amended.

Motion CARRIED 6-0

Recognition of Guests

Jollee McQueen, 5599 Howard City Edmore Rd., Cedar Lake, MI - stated to the board that the bus used to pick up their students just over the school district line but Montabella complained so they do not pick them up anymore. But she stated that Montabella picks students up at the funeral home.

Questions on Building Reports: None

Communications: None

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Freeman, support by McNerney to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting held September 8, 2014 as presented.

Motion CARRIED: 6-0

Motion by Freeman, support by Palmer to approve the minutes of the Executive Session held during the Regular meeting on September 8, 2014 as presented.

Motion CARRIED 6-0

Treasurer's Report- October

Motion by Freeman, support by McNerney to approve the bills as monies become available.

Motion CARRIED 6-0

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Audit Report

Ali Goodhall, Auditor from YEO and YEO reported to the board the 2013-2014 audit. There is only 1 finding and that is in the Food Service. The food service program has more money than allowed by state standards. Ali reported that our student count was down 11%. Ali also reported that if the district dips below 5% in the fund balance, the school will be required to report more to the state.

Ali commented on how well Bonnie takes care of the district with only a .4% difference in revenue and a 0% difference in expenditures. Ali talked about the Mpsers and reporting it on the district's financial statements.

Hubbard stated that the board needs to thank Bonnie for all of the hard work she did in preparing for the audit. Ali stated that Bonnie had a lot of stuff to them before they even came to the district.

Consent Agenda

A. Employ

1. Bethany Wieber – Preschool Teacher
2. Gloria Burns--Art Teacher
3. Dave Freeman---Maintenance
4. Branden Bennett - Middle School Boys Basketball Coach
5. Matthew Koutz - Girls Varsity Basketball Coach

B. Resignation

1. Dave Freeman---Board of Education
2. Scott Marshall - Varsity Baseball Coach

C. Recall

1. Linda Palmer - Paraprofessional

Motion by McNerney, support by Davis to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Roll call: Davis - yes, Drumm - yes, Freeman - abstain, McNerney - yes, Palmer - yes, Van Sickler - yes

Motion CARRIED 5-0, 1 abstain

Hubbard thanked Dave Freeman for all of his years of service on the board during tough times with budget cuts. Hubbard also welcomed aboard the new staff and thanked Scott Marshall for the outstanding job he has done with the baseball program.

New Business

District School Improvement Plan Ratification

Weaver stated that this just needs to be approved each year. The School Improvement plan is available to read or check out from the Central Office and the Elementary/M.S/H.S. office.

Motion by McNerney, support by Palmer to approve the School Improvement Plan

Motion CARRIED 5-0

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Adopt Neola Policies Volume 28, Number 2

Motion by Davis, support by Palmer to approve Neola Policies Volume 28, Number 2.

Other Business

Motion by McNerney, support by Palmer to enter executive session at 7:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Davis – yes, Drumm – yes, McNerney – yes, Palmer – yes, Van Sickler - yes

Motion CARRIED 5-0

Motion by McNerney, support by Palmer to re-enter regular session at 7:58 p.m.

Roll call: Davis – yes, Drumm – yes, McNerney – yes, Palmer – yes, Van Sickler - yes

Motion CARRIED: 5-0

Old Business: None

Items for Discussion:

Priority Quarterly Update

Hubbard stated that Mrs. Weaver is really working with staff on the reading.

Mr. Steele and Mrs. Bos are working with the Chrome Books. This has allowed the 6th graders to use a new social studies curriculum. These Chrome books will go with the 6th graders to 7th grade.

NWEA Update

Weaver presented to the board the NWEA scores from fall to fall. Math scores look really good. Mrs. Weaver stated by looking at the scores it shows the program's success, student success and the teachers' success with the program. Weaver stated that our teachers are working very hard with the new math program and it is showing huge success.

Weaver then showed the board the reading scores from fall to fall. Weaver stated that the summer slide affects the reading scores. McNerney stated that this is one of the things that should be the easiest to be involved in by encouraging students to read throughout the summer. Weaver also showed the board the language scores which are increasing. High school and middle school score for language are up and down. Hubbard stated the ACT program is there to help with the reading and language scores.

Davis stated that from helping administer the NWEA test the students did not take it seriously at first but now they seem to take it more serious.

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Preschool Update

Weaver updated the board on preschool. She stated they are very excited with the preschool program. Last year we ended the year with one classroom with two groups of 16. This year the district has 45 students. This is a great program for early on students and great for Vestaburg. This will help with our kindergarten numbers for next year. Weaver stated we are very proud of our program and all of the people involved making this program run smoothly from the teachers, paraprofessionals, bus drivers, maintenance, etc. Hubbard thanked Mrs. Weaver for all of the work that she has done for this program.

Committee Meetings

1. Finance---October 27th at 7:00 p.m.
2. Facilities---October 27th at 7:00 p.m.

Finance committee needs to be rescheduled. Mick, Lynn and Tom will be on the committee. The committee agreed to meet Tuesday, November 4th at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room in central office.

AT&T Backpack Donation

Hubbard stated that AT&T donated backpack full of school supplies. Senator Emmons and Rick Outman presented the school with 40 backpack with supplies to give to at risk students. Hubbard stated that he is sending an article to the Daily News.

Van Sickler amended the agenda to appoint a Treasurer for the Board since Dave Freeman resigned.

Motion by McNerney, support by Palmer to amend the agenda by adding the appointment of a treasurer.

Van Sickler appointed Mick Drumm as the Treasurer.

Motion CARRIED 5-0

Work in Progress

Transportation/Bus Update

Hubbard stated that we have 7 buses running that have met inspection. The 8th bus should be finished this week. Expenses did go up to get the buses ready for the school year. Some of the expenses were things that Ken could do but with timing we had to take the bus to be serviced.

Hubbard stated the school district line between Vestaburg and Montabella is Vickeryville Road. Hubbard stated we will work with the family to support them with another stop. But the district cannot cross the district line to pick up or drop off students.

Recognition of Guests: None

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Items for next Board Meeting November 10, 2014

Amended Budget 2014-2015

Hubbard will present an amended budget at the next board meeting.

Balanced Calendar Exploratory Discussion

Hubbard stated that the district will be putting out a survey, we want the community input.

Board Vacancy and Interviews

Hubbard stated that he is seeking legal counsel with the election at the same time on how we fill that empty position.

Palmer talked about reading and reading to your child. Palmer stated maybe we need to address to the parents that they need to model that behavior. Palmer asked if there is a time during the day that everyone is reading. Weaver stated that most teachers have a time for reading during their schedule for the day.

Motion by McNerney, support by Drumm to adjourn at 8:40 p.m.

Motion CARRIED 5-0

Karen S. Grover  
Recording Secretary